

REMARKS

An excess claim fee payment letter is submitted herewith for nine (9) excess dependent claims.

Claims 1-30 are all the claims presently pending in the application.

As a preliminary matter, Applicant's representative thanks the Examiner for courtesies extended in the personal interview conducted on December 6, 2004.

An informal Examiner's Interview Summary Record (PTOL-413) was provided by the Examiner at the interview. Applicant includes a Statement of Substance of Interview below to comply with the requirements of M.P.E.P. § 713.04.

New claims 22-30 are added to provide more varied protection for the present invention.

Claim 11 is amended to provide proper antecedent basis, thereby overcoming the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

It is noted that the claim amendments are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicant specifically states that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 1-21 stand rejected on prior art grounds.

With respect to the prior art rejections, claims 1, 4-10, 12, and 16-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Carter, et al. (U.S. Patent No.

6,675,357). Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), claims 2-3 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Carter in view of Flowers, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,533,174); claim 11 stands rejected as being unpatentable over Carter in view of Cedar, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,256,650); and claim 13 stands rejected as being unpatentable over Carter in view of Yacoub (U.S. Patent No. 6,452,692).

These rejections are respectfully traversed in the following discussion.

I. STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

A. Identification of claims discussed:

The independent claims were mainly discussed. Although, claims 1-21 were discussed generally.

B. Identification of rejections discussed:

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 1, 4-10, 12, and 16-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Carter, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,675,357). Claims 2-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carter in view of Flowers, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,533,174). Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carter in view of Cedar, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,256,650). Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carter in view of Yacoub (U.S. Patent No. 6,452,692).

C. Identification of principal proposed amendments:

Proposed amendment to claim 11 to provide proper antecedent basis.

With respect to the independent claims, the Examiner expressed his position of the alleged vagueness of “font information data” and how it can be strengthened towards making the case more distinguishing over the prior art.

The Examiner also suggested amending the claims to define more clearly the “font search unit” as “matching, comparing, and contrasting” to overcome general querying and searching.

The Examiner noted that claim 4 more clearly defined the invention, but recommended further defining the “font information data”.

Applicant’s representative discussed adding new dependent claims to clarify the present claim language and define more clearly the features of the invention, which distinguish the claimed invention over the prior art.

D. Brief Identification of principal arguments:

The Examiner and Applicant’s representative discussed the prior art rejections and Applicant’s traversal arguments, which are submitted below in detail.

E. Results of the Interview:

No agreement was reached.

However, the Examiner acknowledged that the amendments to the claims, as discussed above, should clarify the distinctions between the applied references and the claimed invention. The Examiner will consider the filed Amendment, including Applicant’s claim amendments, and will conduct a further search at that time.

II. THE CLAIMED INVENTION

The claimed invention is directed to a data communication system.

In the illustrative, non-limiting embodiment of the present invention, as defined by independent claim 1, the data communication system includes a client computer and a server being capable of communicating data with each other. The client computer includes a first font transmitting unit for transmitting font information data representing fonts stored on the client computer and capable of being output at the client computer. On the other hand, the server includes a first receiving unit for receiving the font information data that has been transmitted from the first font transmitting unit of the client computer. The data communication system also includes a font search unit for searching for fonts, which are capable of being output at the client computer, from among fonts stored on the client computer and capable of being output at the server, on the basis of fonts represented by the font information data that has been received by the first receiving unit. Further, the data communication system includes a second font transmitting unit for transmitting font information data representing the fonts, which have been found by the font search unit, to the client computer.

Independent claims 6-9, 12, and 18 define other exemplary embodiments of the present invention, wherein font information data representing fonts stored on the client computer and capable of being output at the client computer are transmitted from the client computer to the server, the server searches fonts stored on the client computer and capable of being output at the server for fonts capable of being output at the client computer based upon fonts represented by the font information data, and transmits the font information data representing the fonts, which have been found by the font search unit, to the client computer such that the user of the client computer uses only those fonts

that are capable of being printed by the server when creating documents to be transmitted to the server for printing.

Thus, by transmitting the font information data representing the fonts, which have been found by the font search unit, to the client computer, the claimed invention enables the user of the client computer to use only those fonts that are capable of being printed by the server when creating documents to be transmitted to the server for printing.

In other words, by transmitting the font information data representing the fonts which have been found by the font search unit to be capable of both display on the client computer and printing on the server, the user is informed of which fonts (from the fonts stored on the user's computer) to use when creating a document to ensure that the server is capable of printing the document. In this way, the user can easily create documents using their own computer and transmit those documents to the server for printing by a high-quality printer for delivery to the user via mail, while having confidence that the printed version of the ordered documents will correspond to the documents created using the client computer (e.g., see specification at page 17, lines 13).

III. THE 35 U.S.C. § 112 REJECTION

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

As mentioned above, claim 11 is amended to provide proper antecedent basis.

Therefore, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, should be overcome.

Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to withdraw this rejection.

IV. THE PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

A. Claims 1, 4-10, 12, and 16-21:

Claims 1, 4-10, 12, and 16-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Carter.

The Examiner alleges that Carter discloses all of the features of the claimed invention. However, Applicant respectfully submits that there are features of the novel and unobvious combination of elements of the claimed invention which are not disclosed or suggested by Carter. Therefore, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

For example, independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a data communication system comprising:

a client computer and a server being capable of communicating data with each other,
wherein said client computer includes a first font transmitting unit for transmitting font information data representing fonts which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer; and
wherein said server comprises:
a first receiving unit for receiving the font information data that has been transmitted from said first font transmitting unit of said client computer;
a font search unit for searching for fonts, which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer, from among fonts capable of being output at said server, on the basis of fonts represented by the font information data that has been received by said first receiving unit; and
a second font transmitting unit for transmitting font information data representing the fonts, which have been found by said font search unit, to said client computer (emphasis added).

According to the claimed invention, by providing the second font transmitting unit for transmitting the font information data representing the fonts that have been found by

the font search unit to the client computer, the claimed invention enables the user of the client computer to use only those fonts that are capable of being printed by the server when creating documents to be transmitted to the server for printing.

In other words, by transmitting the font information data representing the fonts which have been found by the font search unit to be capable of both display on the client computer and printing on the server, the user is informed of which fonts (from the fonts stored on the user's computer) to use when creating a document to ensure that the server is capable of printing the document using the selected font. In this way, the user can easily create documents using their own computer and transmit those documents to the server for printing by a high-quality printer for delivery to the user via mail, while having confidence that the printed version of the ordered documents will correspond to the documents created using the client computer (e.g., see specification at page 17, lines 13).

First, the Examiner alleges that Carter discloses that "said client computer includes a first font transmitting unit for transmitting font information data representing fonts which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer", as recited in independent claim 1 (emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's position, for several reasons.

The Examiner cites column 5, lines 53-61 and column 6, lines 4-16 as disclosing this feature of the claims. However, Carter clearly discloses transmitting "print jobs", not "font information data", as claimed.

In fact, Carter specifically defines a "print job" as:

a request from a client to output to a particular hard copy
device a set of graphical primitive commands.

(see Carter at column 5, lines 61-63; emphasis added).

In comparison, claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a “first font transmitting unit for transmitting font information data representing fonts which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer” (emphasis added). That is, the font information data represents the fonts which are stored on the client computer which are capable of being output by the client computer, not simply a “print job” to be printed.

Accordingly, Carter clearly does not disclose or suggest a “first font transmitting unit for transmitting font information data representing fonts which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer”, as claimed in claim 1 (emphasis added).

Second, the Examiner alleges that Carter discloses a font searching unit for searching for fonts. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner’s position.

Contrary to the Examiner’s position, Applicant submits that Carter does not search “for fonts, which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer, from among fonts capable of being output at said server, on the basis of fonts represented by the font information data that has been received”, as claimed in claim 1 (emphasis added).

Moreover, Carter also does not disclose or suggest the novel combination of elements including “a first receiving unit for receiving the font information data that has been transmitted from said first font transmitting unit of said client computer” and “a font search unit for searching for fonts, which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer, from among fonts capable of being output at said

server, on the basis of fonts represented by the font information data that has been received by said first receiving unit”, as claimed in claim 1 (emphasis added).

Instead, Carter provides a method of controlling printing through a graphical user interface in which the user or administrator can select and/or configure a font-matching scheme to enhance the quality and performance of printing (see Carter at column 5, lines 35-42).

For example, in Figure 6, the client “print job” is received (e.g., step 600) and then the queue processor retrieves the Java font associations (e.g., step 606) and matches the Java font to font GUI associated font (e.g., step 608)(e.g., see Carter at column 7, lines 46-64). In other words, the file to be printed (e.g., the client “print job”) already has been created, such that Carter provides a method of font-matching to the fonts already used in the document.

In comparison, as defined, for example, by independent claim 1, the claimed first font transmitting unit transmits the font information to the server such that the “font search unit” of the server can search “for fonts, which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer, from among fonts capable of being output at said server, on the basis of fonts represented by the font information data that has been received” (emphasis added).

Thus, the user can easily create documents using their own computer and transmit those documents to the server for printing by a high-quality printer for delivery to the user via mail, while having confidence that the printed version of the ordered documents will correspond to the documents created using the client computer (e.g., see specification at page 17, lines 13).

Third, the Examiner alleges that Carter discloses a “second font transmitting unit” at column 4, lines 1-20, which allegedly is “*displayed to the client*” (e.g., see Office Action at page 3, lines 19-21).

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner’s position.

Applicant notes that Carter (see column 4, lines 1-20) does not disclose, suggest, or even mention “a font transmitting unit for transmitting font information data representing the fonts, which have been found by said font search unit, to said client computer”, as claimed in claim 1.

Instead, Carter simply describes that the server communicates with the network computers and the network printer (e.g., see Carter at column 4, lines 1-20). Carter does not, however, disclose, suggest, or even mention that the server includes a transmitting unit for transmitting “font information” back to the client computer, as claimed in independent claim 1.

Indeed, Carter does not even contemplate the problems being addressed by the present invention, such as enabling the user to easily create documents using fonts from their own computer and to transmit those documents to the server for printing by a high-quality printer while ensuring that the server also is capable of printing the fonts in which are used to create the selected document (e.g., see specification at page 17, lines 13).

Instead, Carter relates to an apparatus and method for controlling printing, and more particularly, for allowing the association of a logical font with a number of system fonts or device fonts on a per printer queue basis (e.g., see Carter at column 2, lines 15-23).

As mentioned above, in Carter, the client “print job” is received (e.g., step 600) and then the queue processor retrieves the Java font associations (e.g., step 606) and matches the Java font to font GUI associated fonts (e.g., step 608)(e.g., see Carter at column 7, lines 46-64). In other words, the file to be printed (e.g., the client “print job”) already has been created, such that Carter provides a method of font-matching to the fonts already used in the document.

Thus, Carter also does not disclose, suggest, or even mention that the server includes a transmitting unit for transmitting “font information” back to the client computer, as claimed in independent claim 1.

For the foregoing reasons, Carter clearly does not disclose or suggest all of the novel and unobvious features of independent claim 1. Therefore, the Examiner respectfully is requested to withdraw this rejection and permit claim 1 to pass to allowance.

For somewhat similar reasons as those set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that Carter also does not disclose or suggest all of the novel and unobvious features of independent claims 6-9, 12, and 18.

For example, independent claim 6 recites, *inter alia*, a client computer capable of communicating data with a server, wherein:

font information data representing fonts which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer are transmitted from said client computer to said server;

said server searches fonts capable of being output at said server for fonts which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer based upon fonts represented by the font information data that has been transmitted from said client computer, and transmits font

information data representing the fonts that have been found to said client computer; and

said client computer comprises:

a receiving unit for receiving font information data that has been transmitted from said server; and

a reporting unit for reporting fonts represented by the font information data that has been received by said receiving unit (emphasis added).

On the other hand, independent claim 7 recites, *inter alia*, a server capable of communicating data with a client computer, including:

a receiving unit for receiving font information data transmitted from said client computer and representing fonts which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer;

a search unit for searching for fonts, which are capable of being output at said client computer, from among fonts capable of being output at said server, on the basis of fonts represented by the font information data that has been received by said first receiving unit; and

a transmitting unit for transmitting font information data, which represents fonts that have been found by said search unit, to said client computer (emphasis added).

Independent claim 8 recites, *inter alia*, a method of controlling a server which communicates data with a client computer, including:

receiving font information data that has been transmitted from the client computer and that represents fonts which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer;

searching for fonts, which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at the client computer, from among fonts capable of being output at the server, on the basis of fonts represented by the font information data that has been received; and

transmitting font information data representing the fonts that have been found to the client computer (emphasis added).

Independent claim 9 recites, *inter alia*, that:

the client computer transmits font information data representing fonts which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer to the server, said server searches fonts capable of being output at said server for fonts which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer based upon fonts represented by the font information data that has been transmitted from said client computer, and transmits font information data representing the fonts that have been found to said client computer (emphasis added).

Independent claim 12 recites, *inter alia*, a data communication system including:

means for communicating data between a client computer and a server,

wherein said client computer comprises means for transmitting font information data including fonts which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer; and

wherein said server comprises:

means for receiving the font information data transmitted from said means for transmitting;

means for searching for fonts, which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer, from among fonts capable of being output at said server, on the basis of the font information data received by said means for receiving; and

second means for transmitting font information data, including the fonts that have been identified by said means for searching, to said client computer (emphasis added).

Independent claim 18 recites, *inter alia*, a data communication system:

wherein said client computer comprises:

a first font transmitting unit that transmits a first font information data, including fonts which are stored on said client computer and capable of being output at said client computer, to said server; and

a first receiving unit that receives a second font information data from said server; and

wherein said server comprises:

a second receiving unit for receiving the first font information data transmitted from said first font transmitting unit of said client computer;
a second font transmitting unit that transmits the second font information data from said server to said client computer;
and
means for ensuring that a font which are stored on the client computer and employed by the client computer is capable of being output by the server (emphasis added).

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Carter also does not disclose or suggest all of the novel and unobvious features of independent claims 6-9, 12, and 18. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 6-9, 12, and 18 and permit these claims to pass to immediate allowance.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that there are features of the novel and unobvious combination of elements of claims 1, 4-10, 12, and 16-21 which are not disclosed or suggested by Carter.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection and permits claims 1, 4-10, 12, and 16-21 to pass to immediate allowance.

B. Claims 2 and 3:

Claims 2 and 3 stand rejected under as being anticipated by Carter in view of Flowers.

Applicant respectfully submits that Carter does not disclose or suggest all of the features of independent claim 1, for the reasons set forth above. On the other hand, Flowers does not make up for the deficiencies of Carter, and indeed, is not relied upon for these features.

Thus, claims 2 and 3 are patentable over Carter and Flowers, alone or in combination, by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 1, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

For example, Flowers merely discloses a font server that stores fonts for use by client computers. That is, Flowers discloses that the client computer sends a request to the client computer for fonts that are stored on the FAF font server. The request includes the client computers' capabilities, such as print or display requirements, not "font information data" that represents the fonts that are stored by the client computer.

Particularly, Flowers discloses that:

The FAF font server 16 then, based on the print display requirements it receives from the client (i) retrieves the appropriate standard font from the font storage devices 18, (ii) customizes the font, as necessary, (iii) renders outlines and/or bitmaps and (iv) supplies the outlines and/or bit maps to the client in a format which is compatible with the client's application software.

(e.g., see Flowers at column 4, lines 28-36).

In fact, one of the objects of Flowers is to relieve the client computer of the burden of storing the fonts by storing the fonts at the font server. That is, Flowers specifically discloses that "[t]he clients need not devote storage space to the fonts or devote processing time to the rendering manipulations" (see Flowers at column 4, lines 25-27; emphasis added).

Applicant submits that, in contrast to the claimed invention, Flowers merely is requesting fonts (i.e., font outlines and bitmaps) from a font server (which stores all of the fonts) so that they can be used by the client computer.

On the other hand, the claimed invention transmits data representing the fonts (which the client computer already is capable of using) to the server to determine which of the client computer's fonts that the user should use to ensure that the server will be capable of accurately printing such documents created on the client computer.

In other words, the font information data of the client computer is compared with the fonts of the server so that the user can use matching fonts when creating the document to be output by the server.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Flowers does not make up for the deficiencies of Carter.

Moreover, Applicant submits that the ordinarily skilled artisan would not have been motivated to combine Carter and Flowers to arrive at the claimed invention, since Carter and Flowers merely relate to a method of controlling printing by performing font-matching of the fonts in the "print job" and a font server, respectively.

That is, on one hand, the font server of Flowers would be used to provide a selection of fonts which would not need to be stored on the client's computer. On the other hand, the method of Carter would control printing at a network printer by performing font-matching of the fonts already used to create the document before executing the "print job".

Thus, Applicant submits that a reasonable motivation to combine these separate features has not been established.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that it would not have been obvious to combine Carter and Flowers to arrive at the claimed invention. Moreover, even assuming *arguendo* that it would have been obvious to combine Carter

and Flowers, the resulting combination clearly would not disclose or suggest all of the novel and unobvious features of the claimed invention.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection and permit claims 2 and 3 to pass to immediate allowance.

C. Claim 11:

Claim 11 stands rejected as being obvious over Carter in view of Cedar.

Applicant respectfully submits that Carter does not disclose or suggest all of the features of independent claim 1, for the reasons set forth above.

On the other hand, Cedar does not make up for the deficiencies of Carter, and indeed, is not relied upon for these features.

Thus, claim 11 is patentable over Carter and Cedar, alone or in combination, by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 1, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

Moreover, Applicant submits that it would not have been obvious to combine Carter and Cedar, since Carter merely relates to a method of controlling printing and Cedar relates to a method for causing editable text to substantially occupy a text frame so as to present an aesthetically pleasing appearance. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that a reasonable motivation to combine these separate features, in order to arrive at the claimed invention, has not been established.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection and permit claim 11 to pass to immediate allowance.

D. Claim 13:

Claim 13 stands rejected as being obvious over Carter in view of Yacoub.

Applicant respectfully submits that Carter does not disclose or suggest all of the features of independent claim 1, for the reasons set forth above. On the other hand, Yacoub does not make up for the deficiencies of Carter. Indeed, Yacoub is not even relied upon for these features.

Thus, claim 13 is patentable over Carter and Yacoub, alone or in combination, by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 1, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

Moreover, Applicant respectfully submits that the ordinarily skilled artisan would not have been motivated to combine Carter and Yacoub to arrive at the claimed invention, since Carter and Yacoub merely relate to a method for controlling printing and a font server, respectively. Applicant respectfully submits that a reasonable motivation to combine these separate features, in order to arrive at the claimed invention, has not been established.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that Carter and Yacoub, either alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest all of the features of the claimed invention. Applicant also submits that it have been obvious to combine these references to arrive at the claimed invention.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 13 and permit this claim to pass to immediate allowance.

V. NEW CLAIMS

New claims 22-30 are added to provide more varied protection for the present invention. Particularly, new claims 22-30 define more clearly the features of the invention, as suggested by the Examiner in the personal interview.

Applicant submits that new claims 22-30 are patentable over the applied references for somewhat similar reasons as those set forth above, as well as for the additional features defined therein which clearly are not disclosed or suggested by the cited references.

Therefore, the Examiner respectfully is requested to permit claims 22-30 to pass to immediate allowance.

VI. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-30, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

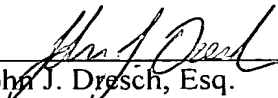
Serial No. 09/641,730
Docket No. 5-006US-FF
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

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